

House Select Committee on Homeland Security Democrats

JIM TURNER, Ranking Member

www.house.gov/hsc/democrats/.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE August 27, 2004 **Contact: Moira Whelan** (202) 226-8827

TURNER on New Passenger Pre-Screening System

Congressman Jim Turner, Ranking Democrat on the House Select Committee on Homeland Security, made the following comment on the testing of the new passenger prescreening system announced today by DHS.

I am pleased that TSA has taken action, but three years after September 11 this initiative is long overdue.

What was unveiled today is simply a scaled back version of CAPPS II, a program that was abandoned because TSA did not have the capacity to manage it properly, or address the many privacy challenges it faced.

With Secure Flight, we may not be getting all of the security benefits needed to make our skies as safe as they can be. For example, we will still not screen individuals before they board an international flight to come to the United States.

###